

South Dakota MINK PRODUCTION

News Release July 20, 2000

MINK PELT PRODUCTION UP

SIOUX FALLS, July 20, 2000 -- Mink pelts produced in South Dakota during 1999 increased 6 percent over the previous year's number. Pelts produced in 1999 totaled 99,700, the highest production since 1986. Although the number of pelts were up, female mink bred to produce kits decreased 5 percent from the previous year. Females bred in 2000 totaled 21,800, down from 22,800 in 1999 and 23,200 in 1998.

South Dakota reported 5 mink operations in 1999, compared to 6 farms in 1998.

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